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ABSTRACT

In 1965, as the University of Akron (Ohio) was approaching its centennial, it was decided to create two archival programs. One was the University Archives, which preserves records and other items dealing with the history and development of the institution. A different approach, but one that was closely intertwined with the University Archives, was the effort by John A. Popplestone, a Professor of Psychology, to collect documentary evidence of the history of psychology. These nationally oriented archives became known as the Archives of the History of American Psychology. The University of Akron subsequently became one of the charter members of the Ohio Network of American History Research Centers when the network was formed in July 1970. These programs represent different approaches to collecting archival sources, an institutional basis, a subject orientation, and a geographical focus. This study examines the establishment and advances made by these programs in their early years. In 1973, with the move of the Archives into the new University Library, the first phase of the development of the archival programs was successfully completed. (Author/SLD)

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THE FORMATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON ARCHIVES, 1965-1973

A Master's Research Paper submitted to the
Kent State University School of Library and Information Science
in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree Master of Library Science

by

John V. Miller, Jr.

December, 1992

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ABSTRACT

In 1965, as the University was approaching its centennial, it was decided to create two archival programs. One of these was the University Archives, which preserves records and other items dealing with the history and development of the institution.

A different approach, but one that was closely intertwined with the University Archives, was the effort by John A. Popplestone, a Professor of Psychology, to collect documentary evidence of the history of psychology. This nationally-oriented archives became known as the Archives of the History of American Psychology.

Five years later, as the University Archives was extending its focus beyond the campus, the Ohio Historical Society began a movement to preserve historical materials on a cooperative basis throughout the state. After some negotiations, The University of Akron became one of the charter members of the Ohio Network of American History Research Centers when it was formed in July, 1970.

These programs represent different approaches to collecting archival sources--an institutional basis, a subject orientation, and a geographical focus. This study examines the establishment and advances made by these programs in their early years.

In 1973, with the move of the Archives into the new University Library, the first phase of the development of the archival programs was successfully completed.

Master's Research Paper by

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I. INTRODUCTION

Statement of the Problem

This paper examines the formation and early years of the three programs comprising The University of Akron Archives--the University Archives, the Archives of the History of American Psychology (hereinafter also referred to as the Psychology Archives or AHAP), and the American History Research Center (also designated as the AHRC).

Justification for the Study

This subject, which has not previously been studied, makes an interesting and worthwhile case study partly because the three programs of the Archives represent different approaches to collecting archival materials. In 1965, as the University was approaching its centennial, it was decided to create two archival programs. One of these was the University Archives, an institutional archives, which preserves records and other materials relating to the history and development of The University of Akron (since 1913) and its predecessor, Buchtel College (1870-1913).

The second program--the Archives of the History of American Psychology--was one that was nationally oriented but limited to one subject, American psychology. With this scope, AHAP would

compete for acquisitions with other institutional and geographical archives.

Five years later a third program was added--the American History Research Center. The AHRC was one of eight members of the Ohio Network of American History Research Centers, which had a geographical orientation and was designed to collect manuscripts, local government records, newspapers, and audio-visual materials on a cooperative, statewide basis.

Although the problems facing the three programs were similar, their different approaches led in some cases to different solutions. For example, the acquisitions and processing strategies and techniques of the AHAP varied considerably from those of the other two.

This study examines why these programs came into being, their functioning and activities, and how the early opportunities and challenges were dealt with. It shows, through the programs of one institution, how the efforts to document American society have involved elements of both cooperation and competition.

Limitations of the Study

This study has a limited time focus. It examines the first eight years of the University Archives and the AHAP and the first three years of the AHRC.

Methodology and Sources

Historical methodology was used for this study. Most of the sources were unpublished documents found in the Archives itself. These primary sources were analyzed for credibility and

interpreted in light of other materials found in the Archives and elsewhere. A search was conducted in Library Literature and archival publications to locate information about the establishment of archives.

Definitions of Terms

The term "University of Akron Archives" refers to the three archival programs of the University--that is, the University Archives, the Archives of the History of American Psychology, and the American History Research Center. One of these is the University Archives, which limits its focus to materials relating to the history and development of the University.

II. COLLECTING UNIVERSITY OF AKRON AND AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGY MATERIALS--ESTABLISHING THE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES AND THE ARCHIVES OF THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGY

The formation of the University Archives and the Psychology Archives are closely intertwined. The first mention of the University Archives in the minutes of the Board of Directors[1] occurred in a brief reference from the meeting of June 21, 1965, when the status of Dorothy Hamlen was to be changed from Head Librarian to Director of the University Archives effective September 1, 1965. At that same time, H. Paul Schrank, Jr., who had been appointed Assistant Librarian in January, 1965, was to be promoted to Acting Head Librarian. These minutes did not include any other information about this change or the operations of the Archives.[2]

Five months later, in his report to the Board for its meeting of November 15, 1965, President Norman P. Auburn discussed the "Expansion of University Archives" as the eighth (and last) of the new academic programs. After outlining the services of the University Archives, President Auburn introduced a second archival program at the University, this one dealing with American psychology. For this new facility, which was to be an "adjunct of the University Archives," he recommended the

appointment of Dr. John A. Popplestone, Associate Professor of Psychology, as Director of the Archives of the History of American Psychology, effective October 20, 1965.[3]

The endorsement of these programs by the University's Board of Directors on November 15, 1965, "mark[ed] the end of a period of intensive organizational activity" which had begun about a year earlier.[4]

An analysis of the founding of the Psychology Archives, according to John Popplestone:

> must start on a note of obscurity because the details of its conceptualization are obscure even to . . . its founders. One general factor that did contribute is the general interest of both participants [Popplestone and his wife, Marion White McPherson, who was appointed Associate Director of AHAP in 1967] in the history of their discipline. One (JAP) had an atypical background for a psychologist in as much as his undergraduate work involved a major in English and minors in history and fine arts, a program that underscores the past. Discussion about the dearth of materials available for teaching a course in the history of psychology were permeated by mutual complaints about the scarcity of secondary sources and the inaccessibility, or possibly even nonexistence, of primary sources. The conclusion that the documentary evidence of psychology needed to be collected and preserved was sufficiently blatant to lead to action.[5]

By January, 1965, Popplestone, who had come to The University of Akron in 1961 as Assistant Professor of Psychology, had taken several steps toward determining the reaction and feasibility of "forming an historical collection as a repository for the raw materials of the history of an academic area and intellectual discipline." When such a plan was proposed informally to colleagues in the Psychology Department, they "expressed an interest and seemed to feel that in their view such

a facility would be of value."[6] In addition, Popplestone broached the proposal with Dr. George W. Knepper, Dean of the University's Buchtel College of Liberal Arts. It is not surprising that Dean Knepper "was enthusiastic" and "authorized exploration," since he was a professional historian who was in the process of preparing a history of the University.[7]

After gauging that there was a positive response on his campus, Popplestone decided to visit two functioning archives in December, 1964, to acquire "an introduction to such problems as staff, storage, and administration."[8] It is not surprising that Popplestone visited Detroit, in that he had earned his A.M. degree at Wayne State University. At the Archives of American Art, which was housed at the Detroit Institute of Arts, he discussed with archivist Garnett McCoy the aims and procedures of his program. McCoy's collection preserved "the historical materials of a particular discipline as opposed to the usual form of archives which are devoted to institutional materials such as the records of a company or a political unit."[9]

At Wayne State University, the director of the University Archives and the Labor History Archives, Philip P. Mason, was not available, but Popplestone was shown around by Stanley D. Solvick. According to Popplestone, Solvick was:

> very cooperative and offered a number of important suggestions. The first concerned the imperative to make certain that the proposed project would not involve a duplication of effort. He also pointed out that any plans must consider the almost certain effect that the archive would grow faster than intended. He also reported that archival costs are apt to be high and in elaborating this said, with some humor, that while in the 20's universities

gained prestige by building bell towers they now founded archives--and that the cost was about the same.[10]

Following these visits, Popplestone solicited comments from a purposive sample of American psychologists. Between January 11 and February 4, 1965, Popplestone sent the following letter to twenty-one psychologists who were selected on the basis of having "an interest in historical affairs or by having a position of authority in the national psychological community."

> Here at the University of Akron we are considering the formation of a historical collection of documents relative to American psychology. This project has departmental enthusiasm, administrative support, and, at a very practical and immediate level, storage space. The details of personnel and of financial support are being deferred until the extent of the need and the amount of interest in the psychological community has been ascertained. The proposed project is described in the following prospectus:
>
> THE ARCHIVES OF AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGY
>
> The primary and secondary materials relative to the history of American psychology are currently widely dispersed. In order to assist in the preservation of such materials the University of Akron proposes to develop and to maintain both a repository for them and a centralized detailed listing of the pertinent holdings of other institutions, libraries, and private individuals. Plans are being evolved for the establishment of institutional continuity, for the provision of quarters, and for personnel.
>
> For the purposes of this archive American documents are defined as materials relative to psychologists who were born and worked on this continent or who functioned for some part of their professional life in the American psychological scene. The restriction of the collection to American documents does not come from a nationalistic bias but rather from a need to place some reasonable limit on goals. It also appears that two psychological systems, Functionalism and Behaviorism, have been predominantly indigenous contributions and the archive would be expected to have some concentration in these two areas. Data from other behavioral sciences, such as sociology and anthropology, and documents from spheres of technological application, such as psychiatry, would be included if they have been influential in psychological study or application as evidence, for

example, by frequent citations in psychological journals.

> The archives, as an historical collection, have no temporal restrictions, so that proto-psychological materials would be highly welcome. No pre-judgment about value, appropriateness, or importance is made since the archives are intended to preserve, not create, history.
>
> The types of materials sought for the archives would be of wide range, examples are as follows: manuscripts, laboratory notes, lecture notes--as given and recorded, letters, films, tape recordings, phonograph recordings, newspaper and magazine clippings, university catalogues, periodical publications, books, equipment catalogues, laboratory manuals, and such ephemera as newsletters and programs of meetings.
>
> I am writing to you, as well as to a number of other psychologists whose opinions seem valuable and relevant, to solicit evaluation of this project. Any suggestions you care to make concerning its purpose, scope, and contents would be greatly appreciated.[11]

Of the twenty-one psychologists whose opinions were solicited, fourteen replied. All of the respondents "approved the idea of an archive," although, as Popplestone was aware, this reaction "might have been predicted from the manner in which the list was composed."[12] In addition to supporting the idea, none of them was aware of a program that was identical in purpose to the one under consideration.[13]

The only question or concern related to the location of such an archives at The University of Akron.

> Some of the respondents raised questions about the stability of the University of Akron, that is, the guarantee of continuity of the archive if established. A few respondents questioned whether the University of Akron was a suitable place in terms of tradition or location, while others said that anywhere was better than nowhere. A few suggested that this university, by virtue of not being too large and not having too many projects, could probably concentrate on an enterprise of this sort in terms of time and interest in a way that a larger and perhaps better known institution might not be able to do.[14]

One of the respondents, Robert I. Watson, was so enthusiastic that he invited Popplestone to visit him at Northwestern University for further discussion of this plan. Popplestone's visit on February 18 went very well, and the two psychologists talked together for about seven hours straight.[15]

By early March, 1965, the plans had progressed to the point where it was considered advisable to call a "conference" at The University of Akron to solicit the opinions of non-University and University people with regard to establishing The Archives of American Psychology. This meeting, held on April 26, involved ten participants. The two non-University people--Philip P. Mason and Robert I. Watson--have been mentioned previously. Besides his dual position at Wayne State University, Mason was serving as the secretary of the Society of American Archivists. Three years earlier (1962), he had also been involved as a consultant, when Oberlin College (not far from The University of Akron) was considering the establishment of a college archives. In addition to being Professor of Psychology at Northwestern University, Watson was editor of the Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences.[16]

Besides Popplestone, seven University employees attended the conference: D. J. Guzzetta (the Vice President and Dean of Administration); Ian R. MacGregor (Financial Vice President); George W. Knepper (Dean of the Buchtel College of Liberal Arts and Associate Professor of History); Dorothy Hamlen (the University Librarian); H. Paul Schrank, Jr. (the Associate

University Librarian); Robert C. Carson (the Coordinator of Research); and Paul E. Twining (a Professor of Psychology). It is not known why Twining attended instead of Howard Maher, the Head of the Department of Psychology, who had originally been invited.[17]

In a six-page report, Popplestone reviewed the "major problems and feasible solutions" that were discussed at the conference.[18] Apparently there was unanimous agreement among the participants that an enterprise such as an archives for psychology was worthwhile and that The University of Akron was an appropriate location.

A number of benefits were projected, including:

> prestige for the University as a whole, acquisition by the library of books of historical importance, and the vitalizing of the psychology program. Members of the national psychological community would rapidly become familiar and interactive with the department. The visits of both graduate students and more mature scholars would combine with the deposits themselves to enrich the experiences of local personnel. Above all the archive would be a contribution to scholarly activity.[19]

The "major problems" addressed by Popplestone in this report were funding, personnel, space, and travel. It was envisioned that suitable space would be available in the University Library for personnel and collections. Travel funds represented a "crucial expenditure," since this was to be a nationwide effort and, in Mason's experience, it was rare for a donor to donate documents without a personal visit. The maximum budget was projected at $22,310--an archivist ($8,000-$10,000); stenographer ($5,000); student assistants ($2,000); equipment and supplies

($3,310); and travel and cartage ($2,000).[20]

No figure was included for the director, since Dr. Popplestone would fill the position with "currently no salary or released time . . . involved." Almost half of the budget would be for an archivist. Popplestone suggested that this figure could be reduced in two ways. Hamlen, the University Librarian, had "expressed an unexpected and gratifying interest in acquiring competency in archival techniques and in being associated with the archives." If she were appointed archivist, the largest single item would already be in the University budget.[21]

Another approach had been advised by Mason. In his view:

> an experienced archivist can provide impressive savings in administrative time, money, and personnel. . . . The increased efficiency and savings resulting from an archival program have been found to provide returns in excess of the investment. Thus it would be rational to employ an experienced archivist with responsibilities in the administration to divide his time equally between a University Archive and the Psychology Archives. Such a procedure would found two types of archives and future growth would then depend upon the success of either or both phases of the exploratory enterprise.[22]

This type of arrangement was considered further in a "Supplemental Report on the Feasibility of an Archival Facility at The University of Akron, September 3, 1965."[23] This document, signed by Dorothy Hamlen, R. Wayne Duff (Business Manager), and George W. Knepper, incorporated their views after a visit to Wayne State University on August 31, 1965. The visit was made to test Dr. Mason's assertion that "he could 'prove' that the administrative efficiencies effected through a university archives would help underwrite the outlay of funds

that the University would have to make to sustain a continuing archival collection in American Psychology." The report concluded that this assertion was not proven, but that there would be definite advantages from having a well-managed university archives and that there probably would be some savings. "These savings could well be applied to help underwrite the expense of a special archival collection whose cost must be sustained by the University over an extended period of time."[24]

The report presented a revised budget. As mentioned previously, Dorothy Hamlen became University Archivist on September 1, so her salary was already included in the University budget. It was suggested that the location of the archives in the library would permit operation with some part-time and/or student assistant help. This was projected at $3,000 per year. Other expenses (furniture--$100; special supplies and equipment such as manuscript boxes and low-acid folders--$600); stationery and printing--$1,000; and travel expenses and cartage--$1,500) brought the total budget (not including Popplestone and Hamlen) to $6,200.[25]

Space did not seem to be a problem for the foreseeable future. The report concluded: "Even though we cannot present more specific data, it is the feeling of those of us who have looked into this matter that the University should embark upon a program which will lead to the joint development of a University Archives and a special collection on the history of American Psychology if resources are available."[26]

With the Board of Director's approval on November 15, 1965, of the recommendations contained in President Auburn's report, the archival program of the University incorporated sources dealing with American psychology as well as University-related materials.

III. THE FIRST FIVE YEARS OF THE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES AND THE ARCHIVES OF THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGY

University Archives

Given the key players in the formation of the University Archives, it is not surprising that it became administratively and physically part of the University Library. Schrank, the new University Librarian, was aware that such an administrative arrangement was not always the case on other campuses. In a memorandum to Vice President Guzzetta, Schrank wrote: "It is apparently an endemic fear among Archivists, for both technical and financial reasons, that they will be crushed by the weight of the Library; that if their support is not independent of the Library, they are liable to no support."[27] For this reason Schrank and Hamlen were careful to argue that "the Archives budget should never be stated as a part of the Library budget. To do so would be misleading. Miss Hamlen should be given a separate budget either by you or by me, but, in either case, it should be stated separately."[28]

For the first two years, the staff of the University Archives consisted of the Director and a part-time assistant, Laura Jane Keister. In June, 1967, a full-time clerical position was created in the Archives. This was filled first by Joan

Pritchard and after September, 1968, by Pauline May.[29]

When Hamlen became Director of University Archives in 1965, she had already devoted about thirty years of service to the University Library, including nineteen as its head. This long tenure in a high administrative position was undoubtedly of considerable assistance when she approached University administrators and clerical personnel about depositing archival materials in the University Archives. The collection development efforts were also aided by the fact that the Library had long served as a repository for University publications and reports. In fact, when the Archives was established in 1965, it already had a collection that had been "drawn from various locations within the library, [and] consisted of five file cabinets and eleven shelf sections of miscellaneous materials."[30]

During the Archives' first five years, records were received from thirty-five offices, as well as from about fifty faculty members, students, alumni, and others. By June, 1970, the archival collection equalled approximately 600 linear feet of materials, including office correspondence, official reports, publications by faculty and students, newspaper clippings, photographs, tapes, films, blueprints, maps, and a few relics.[31]

These collections were housed in a first-floor room of the Library, with additional storage space in the basement.[32]

In addition to collecting records, other important projects of the Archives involved clipping the major local newspaper for information about University people and events, and indexing the

minutes of several bodies, including the Board of Trustees and the University Council.[33]

On July 1, 1967, The University of Akron changed in status from a municipal university to a state-supported university. This transformation did not seem to affect the operation of the archival program in any significant manner.

Of greater impact was the centennial of the University, celebrated in 1970. Besides increasing reference usage of the holdings, it was in fact one of the stimuli for creating a repository for University materials. As early as 1960, George W. Knepper, who was then head of the History Department, began to "collect material concerning Buchtel College and the University of Akron for a centennial history to be published in 1970."[34] When this excellent book was completed, Knepper noted that much of the material used in the account was in the University Archives, "which is in part an outgrowth of this project."[35]

Archives of the History of American Psychology

Administratively, the Director of the Psychology Archives reported to the Vice President and Dean of Administration through the Dean of Liberal Arts. Popplestone's duties were not limited to the Archives; he continued to teach and, from 1966 until 1973, served as Head of the Psychology Department.[36]

To provide professional assistance, Popplestone's wife, Dr. Marion White McPherson, also a psychologist, was appointed Associate Director of AHAP effective September, 1967. In Popplestone's view, this appointment gave formal acknowledgment

to the informal role that McPherson had played from the beginning of the Archives.[37]

"In order to have the Archives reflect the values and advice of psychology on the national level," a Board of Advisers was created in late 1965.[38] A mailing to all members of the History of Psychology Group (whose name was soon thereafter changed to Division 26 of the American Psychological Association) elicited fifty-six nominations. Of these, twenty-one psychologists were invited to serve on the first Board, chaired by Robert I. Watson.[39]

In Popplestone's first Progress Report to the Board, dated December, 1965, he observed that:

> the Archives must serve the entire psychological community--past, present, and future--and it is a task of the Board to provide advice to make sure all groups are represented and to represent the Archives to individuals and organizations within the psychological world. I see the Board acting as advisors, initiators, providing suggestions, contacts and information for which no single person can or should be responsible.[40]

The first matter that Popplestone brought to the attention of the Board of Advisers in this report was the location of the Psychology Archives. At the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association in September, 1965, Dr. Saul Rosenzweig, of Washington University, had "stated opposition to the creation of the Archives on the basis of location. He preferred Washington, and a combination of Archives and a Museum."[41] In January, 1965, Rosenzweig had been sent one of the letters soliciting comments. Although he had not replied, he was now advancing the idea that the National Library of Medicine

was a more appropriate repository for psychology materials. But, as reported by Popplestone:

> the plans here had advanced to a point where they could not be turned back even if this had been considered. In addition, this opposition seems to have elicited only one other supporter. . . . In any case, the archival situation is one in which there is no current monopoly. Psychological materials had found a home in several places, but the exclusiveness and selection which has prevailed in the past makes the goals of the Akron Archives a necessary addition.[42]

Despite this limited hesitancy, the Archives soon proved successful in fulfilling its primary task of acquiring, preserving, and making available documents relating to American psychology. In a little over two years, the space in the Library that was shared by the University Archives and the Psychology Archives had become too small for both. In January, 1968, the AHAP collection was moved to a 924-square foot area in Simmons Hall, where the Psychology Department was also housed.[43]

To provide a high level of access to the documents, an unusual (possibly unique) indexing system was devised. After the detailed inventory to a collection was completed, each unpublished document was reviewed, and for each American psychologist represented an entry was made to indicate that the principal was Di(scussed) or that the material had been Re(ceived) or Or(iginated) by the psychologist. This highly labor intensive system provided more in-depth searching on a personal-name basis than is possible in most manuscript repositories.[44]

In addition to acquiring and processing materials, other

major projects involved conducting and transcribing oral history interviews and maintaining a national locator file for the papers of individual psychologists and psychological associations.[45] This latter effort was particularly useful in that many of the sources relating to American psychology continued to be deposited in university archives and other types of repositories.

To supplement the funding provided by The University of Akron, Popplestone generously established a special fund of approximately $2,000 per year, which represented the royalties generated by a book of readings which he had edited for the use of students enrolled in General Psychology.[46]

IV. COLLECTING NON-UNIVERSITY MATERIALS-- ESTABLISHING THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON AMERICAN HISTORY RESEARCH CENTER

Even before the beginning of the archival programs in 1965, the Library had acquired some manuscript materials created outside the University. The 1965-1966 Library annual report proclaimed that "in addition to her other duties, Miss Hamlen has also taken charge of the library's manuscripts, a small collection which it is hoped will grow."[47] The "small collection" apparently referred to several letters by literary figures and two groups of documents, totalling about 270 items, created during the American Civil War.[48]

Since The University of Akron had been a municipal university for over fifty years, it was not surprising that there would be an interest in collecting locally-created manuscript materials. During the first five years of the University Archives, at least three solicitations were made for papers that did not involve the University. One such effort concerned Akron businessman Frank A. Seiberling, who was the principal founder of both the Goodyear and Seiberling rubber companies. The University Archives annual report of 1968-1969 commented that "efforts made in late 1968 and again this spring, to gain

possession of the F. A. Seiberling papers have so far been fruitless."[49] Alumnus Ray C. Bliss was likewise approached for a donation of materials, but by July 1969 he had decided "to give his papers as National Chairman of the Republican Party to the Ohio State Historical Society rather than to his Alma Mater."[50] One of the three efforts was successful; an agreement was reached in November, 1969, for the Summit County Historical Society to deposit its manuscripts and books in the University Library.[51]

While The University of Akron Archives was extending its focus beyond the campus, the Ohio Historical Society began a movement to collect historical materials on a cooperative basis throughout the state. Such an idea was advanced by David R. Larson, the Society's Curator of Manuscripts, in an April, 1967, address to the Ohio Academy of History. As summarized in Echoes (June, 1967), Larson "proposed the development of a coordinated, state-wide network of history research centers to meet the needs of professional historians, graduate students, and local historians." At that time, Larson noted, there were only four institutions in Ohio actively collecting manuscripts: the Cincinnati Historical Society, the Rutherford B. Hayes Library (Fremont), the Ohio Historical Society (Columbus), and the Western Reserve Historical Society (Cleveland). To supplement these four, Larson's plan called for a center at Akron, Youngstown, or Canton to serve northeastern Ohio south of the Western Reserve, as well as ones to be created at Toledo (for northwestern Ohio), at Dayton (for western Ohio), and at Marietta

or Athens (for southeastern Ohio).[52]

On July 29, 1969, Larson wrote to Warren F. Kuehl, chairman of the University's Department of History, requesting a meeting with Kuehl, University Librarian H. Paul Schrank, and possibly other interested persons, to discuss the University's "being one of six history research centers in a statewide network that the Ohio Historical Society is considering organizing."[53]

When this meeting was held on August 13, Schrank was not able to attend, but he sent Associate University Librarian Pauline Franks to meet with Larson and Kuehl. In a memorandum to Schrank, Franks summarized the points discussed with Larson. According to Franks, Kuehl "was receptive to this idea," and Franks expressed support for the library. Larson envisioned a research center that would be housed in the library, with its own staff, space, and budget, with a policy making advisory committee. The staff might consist of a director, with a Ph. D. in history, who might teach half time. In addition, there might be a Curator of Manuscripts, as well as graduate assistants. Space would involve an office, work area, reference room with space for four readers, and a closed stack area. The Advisory Committee might include four University of Akron representatives (the University Librarian, the chairmen of the History and Urban Studies departments, and one other) and one member each from Kent State University and Youngstown State University. Franks reported that Larson was "leaning toward AU instead of Kent because of the urban area."[54]

The following week, Kuehl sent a memorandum to Schrank indicating his view of the role of the History Department:

> 1. It would be in charge of searches for materials, largely of an official or archival nature, instituted by the Ohio Historical Society, and 2. It would conduct searches primarily for manuscript materials useful in its own research programs (i.e., Business History). For the expenditure of time in directing these searches, one or more members of the History Department would be granted released time. In addition the budget of the history department would include modest amounts for travel and for student assistants who would do much of the work. The latter would not involve a large amount of money if we could assign graduate assistants to these tasks.[55]

It is understandable that the History Department was interested in joining this effort, since a doctoral program in history had been under consideration for several years. (This program was approved in 1969, for implementation in the Fall of 1970.)[56]

As Kuehl suggested, Schrank prepared a communication to Arthur K. Brintnall, Vice President for Academic Affairs, setting the general framework for the network, incorporating Kuehl's language about the History Department, and indicating the role of the Library. This memorandum, signed by Kuehl and Schrank, stated that "the Library will undertake the organization, storage and control . . . of materials and it will provide the facilities and the space for use and the personnel to handle and service them." Kuehl and Schrank expressed "keen interest in becoming an OHS history research center," and hoped that they would "be able to pass on to Mr. Larson an official expression of interest from you or President Auburn."[57]

In his reply, dated August 26, Vice President Brintnall gave

his "hearty endorsement" of the project and asked them to let him know if there were anything he could do to facilitate its establishment. "I hope that you will go ahead with whatever arrangements are necessary with the Ohio Historical Society. In the meantime, you are assured of full support from this office."[58]

Although The University of Akron had expressed strong interest in being a member, apparently the Ohio Historical Society did not consider it a closed deal. In April, 1970, Larson sent Kuehl an article he had written on the "Ohio Network of American History Research Centers: A Proposal." In his reply of April 23, Kuehl complimented Larson on doing a good job in presenting a rationale for the regional archives plan. However, the main part of the letter expressed considerable dissatisfaction with Larson's having written that the "University of Akron and/or Kent State University" would be the agent for the Central Northeast region. In the article, Larson touted Akron as being one of two universities (Bowling Green was the other) that had made "commendable starts," with the "flourishing 'Archives of the History of American Psychology' and a university archives," toward being a research center, but still left it open whether The University of Akron would achieve membership in the network.[59]

Kuehl asserted to Larson that The University of Akron was the first University to promise the support needed, "and to date we may be the only one to do so." The University's obligation

would total an estimated $25,000 a year when the regional program is fully functioning in its first year. He requested a statement from Larson as to when he could expect a final decision. "As I informed you verbally, the Department of History does not wish to become involved in any competitive situation, and we are ready to withdraw our offer at any time."[60]

This letter brought a quick response from Larson. On April 24 he telephone Kuehl, and followed this with a letter dated April 28 proclaiming that "there is no problem with the University of Akron being the Network repository for central northeast Ohio."[61]

But the selection of the site was still not final. On May 26, 1970, Hyman W. Kritzer, the Director of Libraries at Kent State University, wrote to Larson's superior (the Director of the Ohio Historical Society, Daniel R. Porter), making a strong appeal for Kent State to be selected as the site of the center. Among other arguments, Kritzer extolled their new library, with space for archival operations, which was to be ready for occupancy by August, 1970.[62]

About June 4, 1970, a meeting was held to discuss the network center. In a memorandum to the file, Schrank summarized the meeting about "Regional Archives Plan, Akron vs. Kent." The meeting involved Larson, three people from Akron (Kuehl, Knepper, and Schrank), and four from Kent State (Kritzer and Paul Dubois from the Library and Henry Whitney and Frank Byrne from the History Department). As indicated by Schrank, four alternatives

were considered at the meeting: the center be operated solely by Kent State; the center be under the sole administration of Akron; "a joint autonomous operation be established, possibly with a half and half board of directors, funded equally by the two institutions and located either at Kent or Akron"; and the fifteen counties be split into two areas with each institution having responsibility for part. Since no agreement could be reached on the first three, "the fourth alternative seemed the only feasible one. . . ." Further discussion ensued about the counties that would be included in each area. "I [Schrank] suggested that OHS had the obligation to make a geographical split, and it was left that Mr. Larson would do this with the help of one representative from each institution, Dr. Knepper being ours."[63]

When the Charter of the Ohio Network of American History Research Centers was approved, effective July 10, 1970, Kent State and Akron were each allocated eight counties. According to the Charter, signed by Kuehl and Schrank, The University of Akron was responsible for "the collecting of local origin materials" from Ashland, Coshocton, Holmes, Richland, Stark, Summit, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties.[64]

It seems ironic that the effort to form a network to collect archival materials on a cooperative basis led to competition between institutions for membership in the group. At least the situation in central northeast Ohio was resolved before the network charter was adopted. In two other cases--involving

southwest Ohio (University of Cincinnati and the Cincinnati Historical Society) and northwestern Ohio (Bowling Green State University and the University of Toledo)--the center was not determined until after the network had been set into operation.[65]

V. THE THREE ARCHIVAL PROGRAMS, 1970-1973

With the establishment of The University of Akron American History Research Center in July, 1970, the University had three archival collecting focuses.

From 1970 to early 1973, the Archives of the History of American Psychology underwent no major changes in personnel or program. The increased recognition of the AHAP at the national level was evidenced by an invited article in The American Archivist (January, 1971) and an account of an exhibition of laboratory instruments published in Technology and Culture (October, 1970). By August, 1972, the holdings totalled more than 500 feet of documents, 600 pieces of psychological apparatus, 1100 photographs, and twelve oral histories. During the year 1971-1972, the deposits were used by eighty scholars.[66]

For the University Archives, a major program change was proposed by Hamlen in late 1970. In a previous annual report (1968-1969) she had discussed briefly the desirability of having a records management program at the University.[67] This idea was given more attention in Hamlen's December 17, 1970, memorandum to Schrank entitled "Statement on Need For Campus Wide Record Inventory." Hamlen lamented that the Archives had "'failed in its purpose.' It has not become a center of information

concerning the development of the University. At this writing it bears only a faint resemblance to such a center. The failure is caused by a lack of authority to obtain information and records as these become available." Hamlen proposed that an inventory of campus records "should be planned to begin early in 1971 and be carried out on a set schedule."[68]

Hamlen also mentioned several specific approaches that would increase the holdings of the archives, including "a statement . . . in every letter of appointment of a committee chairman which would instruct that person to deposit copies of meeting minutes, background papers, and reports in Archives."[69]

One action to expand the visibility of the Archives was an Open House on February 10, 1971. The Vice President for Academic Affairs, Michael J. Rzasa, wrote a memorandum to each of the fourteen Deans on January 18 mentioning this Open House. In addition, he indicated that Hamlen would arrange with the Dean's secretary to visit their office:

> before the end of the academic year in order to make a quick check of the records in your office with a view to suggesting transfer of non-current files to Archives (or even discard of records if similar ones are already on file in Archives). It should not take more than an hour. Please urge your secretary to make a place in her schedule for this visit when it is requested.[70]

About a week later (January 27) a memoranda went out over the signatures of the Vice President for Business and Finance and the Vice President and Dean of Student Services to nineteen middle and upper-level managers drawing attention to the enclosed memorandum by Rzasa and stating that, "Your secretary will also

be invited by Miss Hamlen to the Archives Open House on February 10, and Miss Hamlen will want to talk to you or to your secretary about the records in your office. I hope you will cooperate with her in making the University Archives a complete success."[71]

The Open House attracted 75 office personnel; Hamlen felt that the number would have been larger had not inclement weather forced the closing of most offices the day before. In her opinion, this promotional effort "was successful" and might be worth repeating the following quarter and after that on an annual basis.[72]

It is not known how many, if any, offices were visited for the purpose of preparing an inventory. In any event, attention was diverted from this effort by a major fire on May 7, 1971, which gutted Buchtel Hall, the main administration building. The fire "forced the removal of all records from the building and a subsequent transfer of many of them to University Archives. These arrived rapidly, in great quantities, usually unidentified. It was impossible to keep an accurate acquisition account of donors or records."[73]

A secondary impact of the fire was the decision to move the main University administration offices into the Library and to relocate University Archives to Service Building 2, about a five-minute walk from its former home. For the next year and a half, the University Archives functioned in an area that was physically separate from the Library.[74]

Meanwhile, The University of Akron American History Research

Center was getting underway. During the first year of the Network, the Akron center was guided by University Librarian Paul Schrank and Professor of History George Knepper. Despite limited time to devote to this project, they acquired several collections of local government records and surveyed records-holding institutions in the region.[75]

An active program of collecting manuscript materials from the eight-county region, however, was not begun until 1971, when the first director of the AHRC was appointed. The search for a director had begun shortly after the formation of the Network. Writing to Arthur S. Link, the editor of the Woodrow Wilson Papers and a Professor at Princeton University, on September 30, 1970, Warren Kuehl asked for assistance in hiring an historian/archivist. He explained that the University had been designated as one of the Network centers and that the History Department "has assumed the responsibility of overseeing this project." Kuehl mentioned that "we shall have an opening next year for someone who will divide his time between a teaching assignment and a manuscript post. . . . We want someone, therefore, who is a trained historian but who has sufficient knowledge of manuscript materials to direct the disposition and arranging of collections."[76]

This search was completed by April, 1971, when the minutes of the University's Board of Trustees carried the announcement that David E. Kyvig had been appointed Assistant Professor of History, effective September 15, 1971. As stated in the minutes,

"initially his services will be divided between the Department of History and the Library, where he will serve as an archivist working with the Ohio Historical Society."[77] The new director of the AHRC met very well the criteria mentioned by Kuehl. In addition to holding a Ph. D. in History (from Northwestern University), he had a year's service as an archivist with the Office of Presidential Libraries of the National Archives and Records Service.[78]

In his first year, Kyvig developed a wide-ranging collection policy and began making solicitations. In addition to acquiring several small collections of personal papers and organizational records, he secured the commitment of Congressman John F. Seiberling to deposit his papers at Akron at the end of his governmental service.[79]

Within a short time, another search for an archivist was begun. At the end of 1971, Hamlen retired from the University. For the next six months, until July 1, 1972, her assistant, Pauline May, carried on the operation of the University Archives.[80]

On July 1, 1972, John V. Miller, Jr. assumed the duties of Director of Archival Services. Miller, who had an M.A. in History from the University of Delaware and was writing his dissertation for a Ph. D. at the University of Pennsylvania, had worked in the manuscripts department of the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration and the archives of the University of Pennsylvania. In this newly created position,

Miller was to direct the operations of the University Archives and to assist Dr. Popplestone and Dr. Kyvig with their programs.[81]

Many of the activities of the Archives during 1972-1973 revolved around planning for the relocation of the Archives into its 4,000 square-foot area in the new Bierce Library. In early March, 1973, the holdings of the University Archives and the American History Research Center were moved into the new building.[82]

As Director of the Research Center, Kyvig devoted his attention primarily to solicitation and acquisitions of locally-produced materials, while Miller directed the processing of the items and the reference function.

The following month, the Psychology Archives transferred 184 cubic feet of documents to the new archival facility. Popplestone, as Director of the AHAP, continued to solicit materials and oversee their processing; Archival Services was responsible for storing the processed records and making them available to patrons.[83]

With the move into the new quarters, the first phase of the development of the archival programs at The University of Akron was completed. A professional staff had been assembled and, for the first time, there were facilities and equipment which fulfilled the requirements for the preservation and security of archival records. The comfortable, well-designed area provided an excellent environment for the storage, processing, and use of

historical research materials. A firm base had been established upon which the three archival programs could continue to develop.

NOTES

1. While The University of Akron was a municipal University (from 1913 to June 30, 1967), its governing body was called the Board of Directors. When the University achieved the status of a State University on July 1, 1967, this group was called the Board of Trustees.

2. Minutes of the Board of Directors, The University of Akron, 21 June 1965, vol. 15, The University of Akron Archives, Akron, Ohio [hereinafter cited as UArchives], 452.

3. Ibid., 15 November 1965, vol. 16, UArchives, 191-192.

4. John A. Popplestone and Milton L. Kult, "The Archives of the History of American Psychology, January 1965-August 1966," Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences 3 (January 1967): 60.

5. John A. Popplestone and Marion White McPherson, "The Archives of the History of American Psychology," The American Archivist 34 (January 1971): 13.

6. John A. Popplestone, "Conference Concerning the Establishment of The Archives of American Psychology at The University of Akron, Akron, Ohio," 21/4q/VF Archives of the History of American Psychology, UArchives, 2.

7. Popplestone and Kult, "Archives," 60.

8. Popplestone, "Conference," UArchives, 2-3; the source for the date of the visit is Philip P. Mason to John Popplestone, 13 January 1965, Philip P. Mason file, Archives of the History of American Psychology, Akron [hereinafter cited as AHAP].

9. Popplestone, "Conference," UArchives, 2-3.

10. Ibid., 3.

11. AHAP - Organization - Poll of Psychologists - 1965 file, AHAP; Popplestone, "Conference," UArchives, 3-4.

12. Popplestone, "Conference, UArchives, 4.

13. Ibid.

14. Ibid., 5. For an example of a letter questioning the location at Akron, see Edwin G. Boring to John Popplestone, 13 January 1965, Edwin G. Boring file, AHAP.

15. Robert I. Watson to John Popplestone, Robert I. Watson Sr. file, AHAP.

16. John A. Popplestone, "Report on Conference of April 26, 1965 Regarding the Establishment of an Archival Facility at The University of Akron," 21/4q/VF Archives of the History of American Psychology, UArchives, 1; Popplestone, "Conference," UArchives, 1; Roland M. Baumann, "Oberlin College and the Movement to Establish an Archives, 1920-1966," The Midwestern Archivist 13 (1988): 30.

17. Popplestone, "Report on Conference," UArchives, 1; Popplestone, "Conference," UArchives, 1.

18. Popplestone, "Report on Conference," UArchives, 1-6.

19. Ibid., 1.

20. Ibid., 1-6.

21. Ibid., 3.

22. Ibid., 4.

23. Dorothy Hamlen, Wayne Duff, and George W. Knepper, "Supplemental Report on the Feasibility of an Archival Facility at The University of Akron, September 3, 1965," 21/4q/VF Archives of the History of American Psychology, UArchives, 1-6.

24. Ibid., 2.

25. Ibid., 3-4.

26. Ibid., 5-6.

27. H. P. Schrank, Jr. to Dr. Dominic J. Guzzetta, "University Archives," 21 October 1965, University Archives - Establishment and Policy file, UArchives.

28. Ibid.

29. University Archives Annual Report, 1 July 1967 to 30 June 1968, UArchives, 2; University Archives Annual Report, 1 July 1968 to 30 June 1969, UArchives, 3.

30. University Archives Annual Report, 1 July 1969 to 30 June 1970, UArchives, 1.

31. Ibid.

32. University Archives Annual Report, 1 September 1965 to 31 August 1966, UArchives, 4.

33. University Archives Annual Report, 1967-1968, UArchives 2; University Archives Annual Report, 1968-1969, UArchives, 1.

34. "Historical News," The Ohio Historical Quarterly 69 (October 1960): 395.

35. George W. Knepper, New Lamps for Old: One Hundred Years of Urban Higher Education at The University of Akron (Akron, Ohio: The University of Akron, c. 1970), 7.

36. Popplestone and Kult, "Archives," 61; Personal Name Index to the Minutes of the Board of Trustees, The University of Akron, John A. Popplestone file, UArchives.

37. Archives of the History of American Psychology Annual Report, August 1966 to August 1967, UArchives, 3.

38. Popplestone and Kult, "Archives," 61.

39. Ibid.

40. John A. Popplestone, "Progress Report Number 1, December 1965," 21/4q/VF Archives of the History of American Psychology, UArchives, 2.

41. Ibid.

42. Ibid.

43. AHAP Annual Report, August 1967 to August 1968, UArchives, 1-2.

44. Ibid., 2-3; AHAP Annual Report, August 1968 to August 1969, UArchives, 5-6.

45. Popplestone and Kult, "Archives," 63.

46. Popplestone, "Progress Report Number 1," UArchives, 3.

47. University Library Annual Report, 1 July 1965 to 30 June 1066, UArchives, 1.

48. Ibid.

49. University Archives Annual Report, 1968-1969, UArchives, 4.

50. Ibid.

51. University Archives Annual Report, 1969-1970, UArchives, 4.

52. "New Manuscript Libraries Urged," Echoes 6 (June 1967): 2.

53. David R. Larson to Warren F. Kuehl, 29 July 1969, University Library record group - UA820127 - OPS American History Research Center [hereinafter cited as OPS AHRC], UArchives.

54. P[auline] F[ranks] to P[aul] S[chrank], 13 August 1969, OPS AHRC, UArchives.

55. W. F. Kuehl to Paul Schrank, 18 August 1969, OPS ARHC, UArchives.

56. Index to the Minutes of the Board of Trustees, The University of Akron, Doctor's Degrees file, UArchives.

57. Warren Kuehl and H. P. Schrank, Jr. to A. K. Brintnall, 21 August 1969, OPS AHRC, UArchives.

58. A. K. Brintnall to Warren Kuehl and H. Paul Schrank, 26 August 1969, OPS AHRC, UArchives.

59. David R. Larson, "Ohio Network of American History Research Centers: A Proposal," Ohio History 79 (Winter 1970): 62-67; Warren F. Kuehl to David R. Larson, 23 April 1970, OPS AHRC, UArchives.

60. Kuehl to Larson, 23 April 1970, OPS AHRC, UArchives.

61. David R. Larson to Warren F. Kuehl, 28 April 1970, OPS AHRC, UArchives.

62. Hyman W. Kritzer to Daniel R. Porter, 26 May 1970 and attachments, OPS AHRC, UArchives.

63. P[aul] S[chrank] to Ohio Historical Society File, "Regional Archives Plan, Akron vs. Kent," OPS AHRC, UArchives.

64. "Charter of the Ohio Network of American History Research Centers," OPS AHRC, UArchives.

65. Ibid.

66. AHAP Annual Report, August 1970 to August 1971, UArchives, 4; Popplestone and McPherson, "Archives," 13-19; Robert C. Davis, "The Brass Age of Psychology," Technology and Culture 11 (October 1970): 604-612; M. W. McPherson and J. A. Popplestone, "Archives as the Imperative of Historians," in AHAP Annual Report, August 1971 to August 1972, UArchives.

67. University Archives Annual Report, 1968-1969, UArchives, 3.

68. Dorothy Hamlen to H. P. Schrank, Jr., "Statement on Need for Campus Wide Record Inventory," 17 December 1970, University Archives Annual Report 1970-1971 file, UArchives.

69. Ibid.

70. Michael J. Rzasa to Dean H. K. Barker et al., 18 January 1971, ibid.

71. R. Wayne Duff to Carl Hall et al. and Richard L. Hansford to Dudley C. Johnson et al., 27 January 1971, ibid.

72. University Archives Report, 1 January 1971 to 31 March 1971, UArchives, 1.

73. University Archives Annual Report, 1970-1971, UArchives, 1.

74. The move took place on July 15, 1971. University Archives Quarterly Report, 1 July 1971 to 30 September 1971, UArchives, 1.

75. American History Research Center Annual Report, 1971-1972, UArchives, 5.

76. Warren F. Kuehl to Arthur S. Link, 30 September 1970, OPS AHRC, UArchives.

77. Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 21 April 1971, UArchives, 673.

78. Ibid.

79. AHRC Annual Report, 1971-1972, UArchives, 6.

80. University Archives Quarterly Report, 1 September 1971 to 22 December 1971, UArchives, 2.

81. Archival Services Annual Report, 1 July 1972 to 30 June 1973, UArchives, 1-5.

82. Ibid., 1.

83. Ibid., 5.

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